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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/840,055	04/24/2001	David Glenn DeGroote	1002-2U	3715

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DAVID G GROSSMAN  
1408 BAYSHIRE LANE  
HERNDON, VA 20170

EXAMINER

TANG, KUO LIANG J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2122

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<p align="center"><b>Office Action Summary</b></p>	Application No. 09/840,055	Applicant(s) DEGROOTE ET AL.	
	Examiner Kuo-Liang J Tang	Art Unit 2122	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action is in response to the application filed on 4/24/2001.

The priority date for this application is 4/24/2000.

Claims 1-25 are pending and have been examined.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim 1 merely claims an apparatus for generating a live component comprising a resource library, a live component editor, a library, a viewer generator and a component description generator. The resource library, a live component editor, a library, a viewer generator and a component description generator are merely software components (e.g. computer program per se). Such claimed matter is descriptive material per se, non-functional descriptive material, and is not statutory because it is not a physical "thing" nor a statutory process, as there are no "acts" being performed. Such claimed computer programs do not define any structural and functional interrelationships between the computer program and other claimed aspects of the invention which permit the computer program's functionality to be realized. Since a computer program is merely a set of instructions capable of being executed by a computer, the program itself is not a process, without the computer-readable medium needed to realize the computer program's

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functionality. In contrast, a claimed computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program defines structural and functional interrelationships between the computer program and the medium which permit the computer program's functionality to be realized, and is thus statutory. **Warmerdam**, 33 F.3d at 1361, 31 USPQ2d at 1760. **In re Sarkar**, 558 F.2d 1330, 1333, 200 USPQ 132, 137 (CCPA 1978). See MPEP § 2106(IV)(B)(1)(a).

Claims 2-12, which depend from claim 1 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 for the same reason.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

5. Claims 1-3, 6-7, 9-16, 19-20 and 22-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Design Science, Inc., "WebEQ Interactive Math on the Web", April, 1996 (see "WebEQ Equation Rendering: A Simpler Way to Include Mathematics in Web Pages") (hereinafter DSWebEQ).

As Per Claim 1, DSWebEQ teaches that a comprehensive toolkit for building web pages that include interactive math. The world's leading e-learning companies, content developers and education portals are using WebEQ to create web-based learning environments that help educators engage students in math and science on the web.

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Because WebEQ is based on Java and MathML technology, solutions you develop will be platform- and browser-independent. In that DSWebEQ discloses the method that covering the steps of: An apparatus for generating a live component comprising:

- (a) a resource library (E.g. see Page 7 and associated text);
- (b) a live (E.g. see Page 7, line 20 and 26) component editor (E.g. see Page 4 and associated text) for allowing a user to edit said live component utilizing resources from said resource library;
- (c) a library of pre-built application modules (E.g. see Page 7, line 17, 29 and associated text);
- (d) a viewer generator (E.g. see Page 14 and associated text) for creating a live component viewer from said pre-built application modules directed by said live component editor; and
- (e) a component description generator (E.g. see Page 7, lines 24-26, which states "... PathAnimator accepts ... functions that describe the position of ..." and associated text and see Page 10 and associated text) for creating a live component description file directed by said live component editor.

As Per claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ teaches:

"wherein said live component editor is a live component editor and simulator capable of simulating said live component" (E.g. see Page 7 and associated text).

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As Per claim 3, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ teaches:

“wherein said live component is downloaded from a server (E.g. see Page 19, “server” and associated text) to a local system (E.g. see Page 19, “client” and associated text), wherein algorithms in said live component are executed on said local system” (E.g. see Page 19 and associated text).

As Per claim 6, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ teaches:

“wherein said live component description file includes live component viewer instructions” (E.g. see Page 7, lines 24-26, which states “... PathAnimator accepts ... that describe the position of ...” and associated text and see Page 10 and associated text).

As Per claim 7, the rejection of claim 6 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ teaches:

“wherein said live component viewer instructions include XML” (E.g. see Page 16, lines 2-4, MathML and see Page 21, box MathML). The examiner interprets that MathML is another form of XML.

As Per claim 9, the rejection of claim 7 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ teaches:

“wherein said XML is MathML” (E.g. see Page 16, lines 2-4, MathML and see Page 21, box MathML).

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As Per claim 10, the rejection of claim 9 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ teaches:

“wherein said MathML includes live MathML extensions” (E.g. see Page 16-17, 21 and associated text).

As Per claim 11, the rejection of claim 10 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ teaches:

“wherein said live MathML extensions comprises at least one extension selected from the group of:

- (a) a bi-directional equals operator (E.g. see Page 13-14 and associated text);
- (b) an edit attribute indicating if a value is editable; and
- (c) a display attribute indicating a name and format for a display”.

As Per claim 12, the rejection of claim 11 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ teaches:

“wherein said resource library includes at least one of the set of:

- (a) rules (E.g. see Page 11 and associated text);
- (b) definitions (E.g. see Page 7, line 23-24 and associated text);
- (c) default values; and
- (d) resources” (E.g. see Page 7 and associated text).

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As Per claim 13, DSWebEQ teaches a method for generating a live component comprising the steps of:

“(a) opening an initial live component with a live component editor (E.g. see Page 4 and associated text)”;

“(b) iteratively updating said live component by:

(i) selecting an operand for modification (E.g. see Page 10, “Angle of the cannon (degrees)” and see Page 13, operand y) ;

(ii) selecting a step from the group of steps (E.g. see Page 11, boxes “next step”, “back up” and “start over”) consisting of:

(1) modifying the properties of said selected operand (E.g. see Page 13, operand y); and

(2) inserting an additional operation (E.g. see Page 13, operation ‘=’ and ‘-’), selected from a library of pre-built application modules (E.g. see Page 7, line 17, 29 and associated text), that operates on said operand using predetermined rules that correspond to said additional operation (E.g. see Page 8, 10-11 and associated text);

“(c) saving the modified live component by:

(i) creating a live component viewer (E.g. see Page 14 and associated text) using said pre-built application modules directed by said rules based editor; and

(ii) creating a live component description file directed by said rules based editor (E.g. see Page 7, lines 24-26, which states “... PathAnimator



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accepts ... functions that describe the position of ...” and associated text and see Page 10 and associated text”).

As Per claim 15, the rejection of claim 13 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ teaches:

“wherein said initial live component is a default live component” (E.g. see Page 22, line 23).

As per Claims 14, 16, 19-20, 22-25 the rejection of claim 13 are incorporated and are rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claims 2-3, 6-7, 9-12 respectfully.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 4-5 and 17-18 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DSWebEQ in view of Kroeker et al. US Patent No. 6,073,232 (hereinafter Kroeker), further in view of Charlet et al., US Patent No. 6,715,109 (hereinafter Charlet)

As Per claim 4, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ does not explicitly disclose compiled code and assembled code. However, Kroeker in an

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analogous art teaches in a manner such as "Computer executable instructions include compiled code and assembled code" (E.g. see col. 4:58-59) Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Kroeker into the teaching of DSWebEQ to include compiled code and assembled code. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use compiled code and assembled code as computer executable instruction to execute the program.

The combination teaching of DSWebEQ and Kroeker does not explicitly disclose interpreted script. However, Charlet in an analogous art teaches in a manner such as "Computer executable instructions include interpreted script" (E.g. see col. 4:58-59) Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Charlet into the teaching of DSWebEQ and Kroeker to include interpreted script. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use interpreted script as computer executable instruction to execute the program.

As per Claim 5, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and is rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 4.

As per Claims 17-18, the rejection of claim 13 are incorporated and are rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 4 respectfully.

8. Claims 8 and 21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DSWebEQ in view of Itakura et al. US Patent No. 6,157,946 (hereinafter Itakura).

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As Per claim 8, the rejection of claim 6 is incorporated and further DSWebEQ does not explicitly disclose that viewer instructions includes data links. However, Itakura in an analogous art teaches in a manner such as “viewer instructions includes data links” (E.g. see col. 19:65-66) Therefore, it would have been obvious to incorporate the teaching of Itakura into the teaching of DSWebEQ so that viewer instructions includes data links. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to the connection manager and the message manager.

As per Claim 21, the rejection of claim 19 is incorporated and is rejected under the same reason set forth in connection of the rejection of claim 8.

### *Conclusion*

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kuo-Liang J Tang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3705. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM - 7:00PM (Monday – Thursday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Dam can be reached on (571) 272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Kuo-Liang J. Tang*

Software Engineer Patent Examiner

*Chameli C. Das***CHAMELI C. DAS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER***11/26/06.*